What Is Claimed Is:

- 1. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:
- (a) a nucleotide sequence which is at least 95% identical to a nucleotide sequence encoding amino acids 1 to 133 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) a nucleotide sequence which is at least 95% identical to a nucleotide sequence encoding amino acids 2 to 133 of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (c) a nucleotide encoding amino acids 88 to 108 of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (d) a nucleotide encoding amino acids 108 to 120 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (e) a nucleotide sequence which is at least 95% identical to a nucleotide sequence encoding the galectin 11 polypeptide encoded by the cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. 209053;
- (f) a nucleotide sequence encoding amino acids 2 to 133 of SEQ ID NO:2, except for at least one conservative amino acid substitution; and
 - (g) the complement of (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), or (f).
- 2. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 1 wherein said nucleotide sequence is (a) or a complementary sequence thereto.
- 3. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 2 wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes amino acids 1 to 133 of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 4. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 1 wherein said nucleotide sequence is (b) or a complementary sequence thereto.
- 5. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 4 wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes amino acids 2 to 133 of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 6. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 1 wherein said nucleotide sequence is (c) or a complementary sequence thereto.
- 7. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 1 wherein said nucleotide sequence is (d) or a complementary sequence thereto.
- 8. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 2 wherein said nucleotide sequence is (e) or a complementary sequence thereto.

- 9. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 8 wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes the galectin 11 polypeptide encoded by the cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. 209053.
- 10. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 1 wherein said nucleotide sequence is (f) or a complementary sequence thereto.
- 11. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 1 wherein the polynucleotide is DNA.
- 12. A method of making a recombinant vector comprising inserting the isolated polynucleotide of claim 1 into a vector.
 - 13. A recombinant vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 1.
- 14. A genetically engineered host comprising the polynucleotide of claim 1.
- 15. A method for producing a galectin 11 polypeptide, comprising culturing the genetically engineered host cell of claim 14 under conditions suitable to produce the polypeptide, and recovering said polypeptide.
- 16. An isolated galectin 1/1 polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:
- (a) an amino acid sequence which is at least 95% identical to amino acids 1 to 133 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) an amino acid sequence which is at least 95% identical to amino acids 2 to 133 of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (c) amino acids 88 to 108 of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (c) amino acids 108 to 120 of SEQ II NO:2; and
- (d) an amino acid sequence which is at least 95% identical to the galectin 11 polypeptide encoded by the human cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. 209053.
- 17. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 16, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

- 18. An isolated antibody that binds specifically to a galectin 11 polypeptide of claim 16.
- 19. A method of detecting a galectin 11 polypeptide in a sample, comprising:
- a) contacting said sample with an antibody according to claim 18, under conditions such that immunocomplexes form, and
- b) detecting the presence of said antibody bound to said polypeptide.
- 20. A method of treatment of a cell growth disorder in a mammal, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of the polypeptide of claim 16 to said mammal.
- 21. The method of claim 20, wherein said disorder is selected from the group consisting of cancer, autoimmune diseases, inflammatory diseases, asthma, and allergic diseases.
- 22. A method of diagnosing cell growth or differentiation disorders in a mammal comprising measuring galectin 11 gene expression in a patient sample.
- 23. A method of regulating cell growth or differentiation in a mammal, comprising administering a galectin 11 polypeptide of claim 16 to the mammal in an amount sufficient to stimulate cell growth or differentiation.
- 24. A method of regulating cell growth or differentiation in a mammal, comprising administering a galectin 11 polypeptide of claim 16 to the mammal in an amount sufficient to suppress cell growth or differentiation.
- 25. A method of regulating cell growth or differentiation in a mammal, comprising administering a galectin 11 polynucleotide of claim 1 to the mammal in an amount sufficient to stimulate cell growth or differentiation.
- 26. A method of regulating cell growth or differentiation in a mammal, comprising administering a galectin 11 polynucleotide of claim 1 to the mammal in an amount sufficient to suppress cell growth or differentiation.

- 27. A method for treating, preventing, or ameliorating a medical condition which comprises administering to a mammal subject a therapeutically effective amount of the polypeptide of claim 16.
- 28. A method for treating, preventing, or ameliorating a medical condition which comprises administering to a mammal subject a therapeutically effective amount of the polynucleotide of claim 1.

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